



Hillsboro Enterprise Zone Fund – Workforce Development Program

The City of Hillsboro's Enterprise Zone Fund Workforce Development program is targeted to increase employment, training opportunities, education and job skills for residents and increase business success for companies in Hillsboro.

Companies utilizing the Hillsboro Enterprise Zone and applying for the extended tax abatement (years 4-5) are required to pay a community service fee, which is then used for workforce development programs and initiatives. New and existing Hillsboro companies located in the Hillsboro Enterprise Zone may be eligible for program funding. The City's Economic Development Staff will work with the business to use existing programs or to develop new programs to meet the company's workforce training needs. Examples of programs that have been developed in conjunction with business and community partners are:

- Recruitment, coordination and delivery of a Washington County **Certified Production Technician (CPT)** training program. The CPT training will prepare individuals for entry level work in the manufacturing sector. Participants will receive a portable, nationally recognized credential from which they can build on. The City of Hillsboro will support CPT training costs for Hillsboro residents with the goal of connecting them to Hillsboro area manufacturers.
- The development of an **On-the-Job Training (OJT)** fund to support new hires at Hillsboro manufacturers. The OJT program provides funding to a business for training they provide to new hires while on the job. OJT payments are based on a 50% wage reimbursement over a designated training period. City of Hillsboro will support OJT costs for Hillsboro residents who are connected to employment.
- **English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)** for manufacturing employees – this program is designed and delivered by Portland Community College (PCC) to provide customized training in helping limited English speaking workers improve their communication skills in the workplace. Classes provide opportunities for workers to gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence in communicating in English with supervisors, co-workers, and other personnel.